[The main theme of the representation was the need for Government help in respect of an orphanage. If the managers of the institution apply to the Government, the application will be considered and whatever help can be given will be given.

In regard to the representation relating to fee concessions and scholarships, the reply given to the Cheramar member applies to this also.

The question of appointing a full-time protector of the depressed classes is under the consideration of the Government.

160. Needs of the Nadars.

MR. A. GURUNATHAMARTANDA NADAR (*Nominated*) said that the Hindu Nadar community was not represented in the Legislative Council, although it was the chief among the minority communities. In population it was the third largest community in the State. While other communities such as the Catholics, Mahomedans, and Ezhavas were duly represented in the Council, it was deplorable that the Hindu Nadar community alone lacked representation. The defect should be remedied soon. In the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly also, the community was not adequately represented. On the basis of numerical strength, the Nadars were entitled to two seats.

In the public service, the Hindu Nadars were most inadequately represented. In the Excise Department, there were only 3 members of that community and they too were only in the subordinate ranks. The few men entertained in the Land Revenue, Police and Registration Departments were not given due promotions. Orders should be issued to the heads of the above departments to entertain Nadar applicants, even though they might be over 25 years of age.

The Hindu Nadars were very backward in English education and the Government were not giving adequate encouragement to Nadar pupils by way of fee concessions. Only poor pupils were eligible for half-fee concessions. But it was very difficult in each case to prove the poverty before the scholarship committee. It would improve matters if, instead of the elected member of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, the local nominated member be appointed on the Committee. But what the community really wanted was that the concession should be granted to all Nadar pupils irrespective of their economic condition. A closed scholarship for that community should also be instituted in each class as in the case of the Mahomedan, Pulaya and other communities.

In the year 1922, the Director of Public Instruction had granted permission to open a grant-in-aid English Middle School at Agastiswaram and the board of management accordingly made arrangements for the construction of a building for the school. The Land Revenue Department also agreed to assign a piece of land for the school. But, subsequently, the above permission was cancelled on the ground that there was no need for such a school in that place, while as a matter of fact the need was becoming greater year by year owing to the increase in the number of pupils. The permission originally granted should therefore be revived.

Much hardship was being experienced by the Nadars, Pulayas, Sambavars and other depressed classes of South Travancore due to want of roads in their villages. Greater attention should therefore be paid to the matter of opening new roads in those localities. In the new Road Boards, there was no representation of depressed classes. Two members from those communities should therefore be nominated to the District and Central Boards. The following public works were absolutely necessary and should be carried out without delay :—

(1) Construction of a road from the 1st mile of the Maharajapuram road to Azhakappapuram *via* Pottakulam ; and

(2) widening and deepening the tank comprised in Survey No. 888 of the Vadivisvaram *pakuthi*.

The Anchugramam Kanakappapuram road should also be taken over for departmental maintenance at an early date.

Lastly, the Mailadi street, which had been closed to the depressed classes by the decision of the High Court, should be declared a King's highway.

DEWAN'S REPLY: மி: மார்த்தாண்ட நாடார் சீங்கள், சட்டசபைக்கு உங்களுடைய சமுதாயத்திலிருந்தும் ஒருவரை நியமனம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்றும், பிரஜாசபைக்கும் குறைந்தது இரண்டு அங்கத்தினரை நியமனம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்றும், சொன்னீர். பிரஜாசபைக்கு உங்கள் சமுதாய அங்கத்தினர்கள் அதிகமாக வேண்டுமென்கிற விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி பெயர்க்குறிப்பு (nomination) வரும்போது கவனிக்கலாம். சட்டசபைக்கு ஒரு அங்கத்தினரை நியமித்தல் விஷயமாக சட்டசபை (Legislative) Council) சட்டங்களை (Rules) பேதகதி செய்யும் போது கவனிக்கலாம்.

பாதிச்சம்பள உரிமைகள் (half-fee concession) உங்கள் ஜாதிமாணவர்களுக்கும் கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை என்று சொன்னீர் இந்தப் பாதிச் சம்பளஉரிமை (half-fee concession) வருமானத்தைப் பொருத்திருப்பதினால் அதற்கு certificate கொடுப்பதில் சில புத்திமுட்டுகள் வரலாம். அதைக்கவனிக்கலாம்.

அகஸ்தீஸ்வரத்தில் ஒரு ஆங்கிலேய மிடில்ஸ்கூல் (English Middle School) ஏற்படுத்திக்தரவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னீர். இவ்விஷயமாக வித்தியாப்பியாஸ (Director) மேற்கூறிய இடத்தில் பள்ளிக்கூடம் வேண்டாமென்று முன்பு அபிப்பிராயப்பட்டிருக்கிறார். உங்களுடைய அபிபிராயத்தை அவருக்கு அனுப்பி விசாரிக்கலாம்.

6-ாவது 7-ாவது விஷயங்களுக்கு (points) மதிப்பு (estimate) தயாராக்கி வைத்திருக்கிறது..

பின்பு, வடிவீஸ்வரம் குளத்தைப்பற்றிய விஷயத்திற்கு (point 8) (Chief Engineer) இடமிருந்து ஒரு ரிப்போர்ட் வருத்தணம்.

உங்களுடைய கடைசி விஷயம் சட்ட உத்தியோகஸ்தருடைய (Law Officer) ஆலோசனையிலிருக்கிறது.

[The prayer for nomination of more members of the Nadar community to the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly will be considered at the

time of the next nomination. In regard to the nomination to the Legislative Council, the matter will be considered when the Legislative Council Rules are amended.

As regards grant of half-fee concessions to Nadar pupils, there may be some difficulty in getting certificates of actual income of each family. The matter will be looked into.

In regard to the need for an English Middle School at Agastisvaram, the Director of Public Instruction has already recommended the opening of a school there. The present representation will also be referred to him for report.

In regard to the opening of a road to Azhakappapuram and the improvement of Kanakappapuram road, estimates are under preparation.

The request for deepening the tank in the Vadivisvaram *pakuthi* will be referred to the Chief Engineer.

The last point about the Mailadi street will be referred to the Law Officer.]

161. Desirability of making the self governing institutions of the State more useful and efficient.

MR. KANAKKU TAMPI CHEMPAKARAMAN KESAVAN (*Kalkulam taluk, Group I*) said that it was high time to overhaul the structure of the local self-governing institutions of the State.

For the Legislative Council, women had the franchise and the right to stand for elections. The sex disqualification did not exist in the sphere of public service also. Section 11 (*c*) of the Municipal Regulation should be amended with a view to enabling women to become members of Municipal Councils.

It was very necessary to widen the franchise of the Municipalities, as only a very small percentage of the municipal population was entitled to vote. Every inhabitant of the Municipality who paid house-tax should be enfranchised.

Government nominated members to the Municipal Councils from communities which were not able to obtain representation by election. That method of special representation should be abolished. The unrepresented communities and sections should be enabled to elect their own representatives.

The members of the Municipal Council elected the President. The system gave rise to jobbery and corruption. The President should be elected by the voters of the Municipality.

Another unwholesome feature of the Municipal Councils was the existence of what was called the Revising Authority. That body, which consisted of the President and two other members of the Municipal Council, had enormous powers in regard to the preparation of voters' lists. The powers were invariably misused by the members of the Revising Authority in order to secure their re-election to the Municipal